

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action of October 5, 2005, are earnestly solicited.

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended, and claim 6 has been canceled, leaving claims 1—5 and 7—13 pending in the application.

Claims 1—5, 8—10 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heidman, Jr. (U.S. 3,372,374). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Heidman, Jr. does not teach or suggest actuating the exterior flashing light only if the vehicle states conditions set forth in independent claims 1 and 9 exist. Hence, claim 1, its dependent claims 2—5 and 8 and claim 9 and its dependent claims 10 and 13 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heidman, Jr. in view of Milde, Jr. (U.S. 4,807,101). Withdrawal of this rejection is requested in view of the cancelation of claim 6.

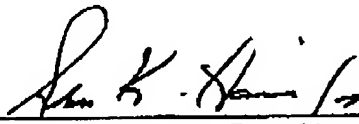
Claims 7 and 11—12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heidman, Jr. in view of Wang (U.S. 5,959,603). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's remarks over claim 7, claim 7 depends from claim 1 and is therefore believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1. Without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's remarks over claims 11—12, claims 11 and 12 both depend from claim 9 and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 9.

Claims 1 and 9, as amended herein, and Claims 2—5, 7, 8 and 10—13, as originally submitted, are believed to be in condition for allowance, early acknowledgment of which is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 3, 2006

By: 
Gordon K. Harris, Jr., Reg. No. 28,615
(248) 944-6526

Attorney for Applicants

Ralph E. Smith
CIMS 483-02-19
DaimlerChrysler Intellectual Capital Company LLC
DaimlerChrysler Technology Center
800 Chrysler Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2757
248-944-6519